

# Connecticut Guardian

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## Joint Task Force Husky – Off and Running

Spc. KARYN REYNOLDS  
65<sup>TH</sup> PCH

Joint Task Force Husky is part of a Connecticut Training Opportunity Program designed to enhance engineer unit and individual combat readiness training. The mission focuses on developing leadership skills and strengthening unit morale and retention posture. To accomplish this mission, unit and individual training is planned and performed throughout the year with specific criteria for accomplishing the tasks set forth for the upcoming Annual Training. Individual unit readiness training for these Engineer units is specifically designed to exceed the standards of their training and also teaches how their job, when coordinated with other unit missions, contributes to an overall objective such as Joint Task Force Husky.

Under the auspices of Maj. Gen. William Cugno, Joint Task Force Husky was coordinated to capitalize on Connecticut's resources, while generating revenue to maximize the potential of these resources. The resources involved in this mission are the 242d Engineer Battalion, the 192d Engineer Battalion, and Stone's Ranch Military Reservation. Presently, Stone's Ranch is a Connecticut National Guard Military Reservation of over 100 acres of resources available for training. Stone's Ranch capacity to support skills training for the National Guard, while adequate for current training, is being planned and



Sgt. Robert Taduni, Co. A, 242d Engineer Battalion, uses a front end loader to remove dirt from Main Supply Route Dodge during Joint Task Force Husky operations at Stones Ranch. (Photo by Capt. Lou Martinez, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH)

transitioned to a new objective. The new objective is to create more roads that are equally friendly to civilian traffic as well as military vehicles and to construct additional training facilities specific to the needs of civilian and military personnel.

While Stone's Ranch currently has the facilities to support combat and engineer training, and boasts a short-range enemy engagement obstacle course and Heli-Pad, Cugno has identified this reservation as one

of Connecticut's most underestimated resources. His plan is to use another Connecticut resource, its guards members, to upgrade the installation to one that will eventually be used for multiple-state guard units Annual Training and other exercises and for civilian training (including law enforcement officers and LifeStar/medical and media helicopter pilots training). The

See **TF HUSKY** p. 24

## Secretaries of Army and Air Force Confirmed

Thomas E. White became the 18<sup>th</sup> secretary of the Army and Dr. James G. Roche the 20<sup>th</sup> secretary of the Air Force after being nominated by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the Senate on May 24.

White identified four objectives he will pursue as secretary of the Army in support of the president and the secretary of Defense: to invest in people, to assure readiness, to transform the entire Army and to adopt sound business practices.

The secretary of the Army is the U.S. Army's senior civilian, responsible by statute for all matters relating to Army manpower, personnel, reserve affairs, installations, environmental issues, weapons systems and equipment acquisition, communications and financial management. The secretary leads a workforce of some one million active duty, National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers and 225,000 civilian employees. The department has an annual budget of approximately 70 billion dollars.

Before his appointment as secretary of the Army, White was the vice chairman of Enron Energy Services, the Enron corporation subsidiary responsible for providing energy outsource solutions to commercial and industrial customers throughout the United States.

White began his service to the nation in 1967, after graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. His distinguished career as a commissioned Army officer included two tours in Vietnam. He retired from the Army in 1990 with the rank of brigadier general.

Roche, as secretary of the Air Force, is responsible for the functioning and efficiency of the Air Force, the formulation of the service's policies and programs, and the timely implementation of decisions and instructions of the president and the secretary of Defense.

Roche, a retired Navy captain and recipient of the Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy for the Navy's most improved combat unit in the Pacific in 1974, said he looks "forward to piloting the journey ahead for the Air Force."

## Berets Make Debut

CAPT. LOU MARTINEZ  
65<sup>TH</sup> PCH

The new look for "the army of one" is taking shape in Connecticut. The Connecticut Army National Guard is one of 14 states following Army Chief of Staff, Gen. Eric Shinseki's mandate for all soldiers to wear the black beret. It's an effort to bring cohesiveness to the army and attract new recruits. The berets, historically worn by special operation units, such as the Rangers, Green Berets and Airborne, will be worn by all soldiers in the active Army, Reserves and National Guard, effective June 14, the Army's birthday.

STARC Headquarters (HHD State Area Command) began fitting for the black berets with the blue patch during its June drill. Soldiers getting fitted were excited about trying on headgear once worn only by elite forces.

See **BERETS** p. 4



Spc. Maurice Smith, HHD STARC, shows Staff Sgt. Steve Markowski how to properly wear his new black beret. (Photo by Capt. Lou Martinez, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH)

# UP FRONT WITH THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

By MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM A. CUGNO,  
ADJUTANT GENERAL



## Accomplishments to Date & Priorities for the Future

As I begin my third year as adjutant general, I think it is appropriate to discuss some of our successes over the last two years and, more importantly, highlight some significant priorities for the future.

First allow me to express my appreciation and commend all members of the Connecticut Military Department for their faithful and dedicated service over the last two years. I know the pace has been fast, and you can expect it will get even faster.

Collectively, we've made significant strides in many areas over the last twenty-four months and our Connecticut Military Department is better off because of it. All is well; however we can never become complacent.

Commanders must keep their battle focus and search for ways to constantly improve and sharpen their unit's performance. Readiness and strength levels of our units continue to be solid; unit lanes evaluations outstanding; safety and environmental issues at a minimum. Additionally, our rapport among state legislators, congressional offices and the governor's office is strong. This is so primarily because they know the Military Department gets the job done!

The area we need to improve most however, is the PEOPLE BUSINESS part of running a 6,000-person organization. Commanders at all levels, supervisors, and division chiefs need to pay more attention to the tasks and issues that have direct impact on soldiers, airmen and their families.

As you can see below, we have accomplished a great deal, but we have plenty more to do! You can expect I have some surprises up my sleeve that I will share with you when appropriate.

Once again, great job and many thanks to my staff, commanders, noncommissioned leaders in the field, the OEM office, our state employees and our Guard families. A special thank you to the governor and people of the State of Connecticut for their continued confidence in our agency and loyal support of our men and women in uniform.

Until I update you further on priorities, stay focused on your lane, take care of people, do your part to improve our Military Department and keep up the good work!

### Major accomplishments:

New BOQ/EOQ (Bldg 32) at Camp Rowland;  
Outdoor Pavilion at Camp Rowland and East Haven Rifle Range;  
New Fire Arms Training (FATS) Building at Camp Rowland;  
Range Control Office at Stone's Ranch;  
Improved bivouac areas and roads at Stone's Ranch;  
New kitchens and bathrooms at Stratford, Branford, Westbrook and New London armories;  
The Connecticut Guardian Newspaper;  
Storm Emily Response;  
Y2K Response;  
Healthcare Strike;  
Lyme Disease Vaccination access;  
New-programmed Brigade Headquarters Organization (Chemical);  
New-programmed MP battalion level organization (Law Enforcement Detachment);  
Renovations to stable facilities at 2nd Company GHG's Newtown facility;  
Renovations to 1st Co GHG stables in Avon;  
Movement of select offices and units to the VA Hospital in Newington;  
Opening of the Soldier Airman Support Center;  
Stand up of the State Emergency Aviation Facility at Brainard;  
STARBASE Program;  
State Partnership Program with Uruguay;  
Stand up of Task Force Husky Engineer unit rotation;  
Successful deployment training for the 143rd FSB, 1/102nd Inf. and 103d FW;  
Expansion of our Connecticut National Guard Website; and  
Reorganization of the State Military Dept., new Deputy Commissioner's position.

### Current Priorities:

Camp Rowland Master Plan - This continues as my highest infrastructure priority. Plans include

the new Regional Training Institute Building, Meeting House (formerly the chapel) and Post Headquarters building.

Air Control Squadron Complex - We will continue to push hard to get this project bumped up in priority from Congress. We expect to get the 12 million dollars military construction funding required for the new complex in FY02.

Post Exchange at Camp Rowland - I have directed a study to determine the feasibility of suspending the present AAFES PX system and replacing it with a Connecticut Military Department operated store in order to better serve the demands of our Guard family (similar to the store at the ARNG PEC Center in Little Rock, Ark.).

Armory Renovations - I am expecting to get appropriate resources from the state to add new bathrooms, roofs (where applicable) and kitchens for the Putnam, Rockville, New Britain, Manchester and Naugatuck armories.

The Lodge Building - This is the second building phase to housing at Camp Rowland and will provide another 60 or so rooms for service members on official duty and service and family members on a space-available basis.

Deployments - The safe deployment and redeployment of our soldiers and airman from the 103rd FW, 143rd FSB and 1/102nd Inf.

Movement of the Soldier Airman Support Center to the Newington VA facility, which will provide easier access for families, a more appealing location and expanded facilities.

STARC Cooks to the Field - I directed all STARC cooks be taken out of Hartford and be placed in units having the greatest need and cost savings to the government.

New MOUT Facility - We will build state-of-the-art Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) facility at Stone's Ranch beginning in FY02.

New Entrance and Cantonment Area at Stone's Ranch - Improvements will include paved roads in and around the compound areas, additional parking, a firehouse and outdoor shelters.

A10 Modernization - I will continue to work aggressively with other TAGs and Congress to modernize our A10s.

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## Family Program Volunteer Coupon

The National Guard family is a group of people; spouse, parents, children, and any other members of the immediate or extended family who share the challenges and rewards of National Guard life!

Volunteer your time and talent — Add value to the quality of your Guard and family life. Opportunities are available at the unit and State level. You can even be a virtual volunteer!

July/August - Prepare for send-off activities

September - May - Network with families of deployed soldiers

April/May - Reunion Activities

November/December - Holiday Projects

April - Volunteer Appreciation Week

August - Governors Family Day

Youth/teen activities, training, publicity/newsletters, organizing

Call /Mail me more information about volunteer opportunities with the Family Program.

I am especially interested in \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ day (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ evening

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

SEND TO: Family Program Office, National Guard Armory, 360 Broad Street, Hartford CT 06105

## Space and Aviation Day Draws Large Crowd

CAPT. GEORGE H. WORRALL III  
103<sup>rd</sup> FW PAO

More than 5,000 people descended on Bradley Air National Guard Base, East Granby during the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Space and Aviation Day open house at Bradley International Airport June 23.

The free public event took place at four airport venues-The Connecticut Air National Guard, Connecticut Fire Academy, New England Air Museum and the Federal Aviation Administration's new air traffic control facility.

A committee named Bradley Family Day Inc., representing all the venues and interested supporters plans the event each year. The committee also works with sponsors to raise money used to defray the costs associated with putting on the event.

Major sponsors included Southern New England Telephone, Konover Associates, Sheraton Bradley Airport Hotel, Radisson Cromwell Hotel, Signature Flight Support and Citizens Bank. Many other area businesses and groups contributed support.

Although an official total was not available at press time, the event raised over \$40,000 that was donated to The Hole in the Wall Camp.

Connecticut and Massachusetts television stations carried news of the event as well as radio and newspapers, ensuring better name recognition for next year.

A wide range of aircraft came to the base from all over the country, including a B-1 bomber from McConnell Air Force Base, Kan., C-5 transport (the largest aircraft type in the U.S. Air Force) from Stewart Air National Guard Base, N.Y., KC-10 tanker from McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., EA-6 prowler from Whidbey Island Naval Air Station, Wash., two F-16 fighters from Burlington International Airport, Vermont Air National Guard, KC-135 tanker from Pease Air National Guard Base, N.H., a CH-47 helicopter from the Connecticut Army National Guard, a T-38 jet trainer from Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. and a T-37 fighter trainer from Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.



(Photos courtesy of John Zirolli, photo journalist, The Airport News)



## Fighter Wing Host Breakfast With the Boss

CAPT. GEORGE H. WORRALL III  
103<sup>rd</sup> FW PAO

Before the Space and Aviation Day opened, the 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing hosted an Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Breakfast with the Boss at the Bradley Air National Guard Base in East Granby.

The twenty guardsmen and employers gathered at the dining facility to learn about the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve program, the 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing and how the Air National Guard will integrate into the Air Force under the new Expeditionary Force Concept.

After introductions, information about the unit and ESGR, Col. Ronald M. Force, aerospace expeditionary force advisor to headquarters Air National Guard, 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing, briefed the assembly about the Aerospace Expeditionary Force.

"It was really enlightening for me as an employer to know more about the guard," said Jonathon McGrath, Saint Govain Advanced Ceramics, who attended with his traditional guard employee Master Sgt. Diane M. Couture, security specialist, 103<sup>rd</sup> Security Police Squadron.

In addition to employers local radio celebrity was in the audience to hear more about the guard and reserve.

"With the new missions and deployments this [guard membership] is almost full-time," said Ray Dunaway, morning host, WTIC Newstalk 1080. "The fact of the matter is you guys carry a lot of freight, basically we could not do half the stuff we do if it was not for the Air National Guard."



(Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Daniel J. Sclare, 103<sup>rd</sup> Communications Flight)

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[www.ct.ngb.army.mil](http://www.ct.ngb.army.mil)



## A Look Back In Time...

### Connecticut's Cavalry at the 1907 Jamestown Tercentennial Exposition

CONTRIBUTED BY PFC. HOWARD MILLER  
TROOP HISTORIAN, 1<sup>st</sup> Co. GOVERNOR'S HORSE GUARD

October 17, 1907 was Connecticut Day at the Jamestown Tercentennial Exhibition that celebrated the three hundredth anniversary of the landing of the first English settlers in America. Representing our state in Virginia was Gov. Rollin Woodruff, escorted by the First and Second Company Governor's Foot Guards, the Horse Guards and the Putnam Phalanx. At 4 p.m., the Horse Guards participated in the review by the governor and his staff. Mounted on horses provided

by the 12<sup>th</sup> U.S. Cavalry, the Connecticut horsemen wore new hussar-style uniforms and according to the *Hartford Times*, "received continuous applause for their fine appearance." The *Times* also reported that Pvt. Rivers was thrown from his horse and received a sprained wrist.

Leaving the exposition, the Horse Guard made a brief stop in Washington, D.C. and returned to Hartford on October 21, having once again proudly represented the State of Connecticut.



### Commander's Beret Ceremony Remarks

*(Editor's Note: The following are the words spoken by Brig. Gen. I.J. Zembrzski, Commanding General, Connecticut Army National Guard, during beret donning ceremonies at the Hartford armory on June 14.)*

Today is the first Army birthday in the new millennium, a day that marks a significant change to the face of the Army and how we are perceived by our nation and the rest of the world.

Today, the black beret becomes standard wear for the active and Reserve components. The U.S. military is constantly changing – it must in order to maintain its relevance in a complex world. And so it is that on the Army's 226<sup>th</sup> birthday we are taking part in a change of great magnitude as don the black beret for the first time as an ARMY.

The beret is a symbol of excellence – throughout Army history, those who have worn it have been recognized for their versatility, agility and ability to adapt. These virtues also apply to the soldiers of the Connecticut National Guard. This organization has a history of excellence – from its inception dating back to our colonial times, with numerous campaigns during the Revolutionary War, Civil War, World War I, World War II and the Korean War, through the Vietnam Campaign, Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Even today our soldiers prepare for deployment to Bosnia. As the Army evolves, its standards are constantly being raised. We are here to uphold those standards and to lead the way as the most powerful Army in the world charges into the new millennium.

As stated by the Chief of Staff of the Army, General Shinseki, wearing the beret "is not about increasing recruiting; we achieved our recruiting target without a beret. It is not about retention; for the second year in a row, we exceeded our reenlistment goal by a wide margin – without a beret. It is not about morale; soldiers are ready today to go into harm's way. It is about our excellence as soldiers, our unity as a force, and our values as an institution."

So let us be proud of who we are and what we do, and wear the beret with honor. It is a symbol of excellence that shows that we are ready to take on any mission, anytime, anyplace. Soldiers First!

## Berets Make Debut

from p. 1

"Great idea! Excellent model for the Army of one. I really feel the National Guard and other reserve units will really fit seamlessly with the active Army component," said Spc. Jeffry Austin, 65th Press Camp. Spc. Maurice Smith with HHD STARC spent most of the day fitting troops and showing them how to properly wear their beret.

"People are really happy with them. I size them (beret), show them the correct way to put them on and send them on their way," said Smith.

Pay attention, this is the proper way to wear your newly issued beret. When you put it on, it should be pulled to the right, the blue patch should be centered over your left eye, the band should be leveled two fingers over the eyebrow and the tassels tied and lined to the back of your head. Officers will wear their brass rank over the flash, enlisted soldiers will wear their unit crest. The beret is to be worn with your Class A and B uniforms, with your BDUs when not in the field (in the field soldiers are required to wear their Kevlar helmets

or, at the commander's discretion, the soft cap).

In the past, Airborne soldiers, Special Forces and the Rangers have tweaked their berets to make for a better fit. They have wet their berets in cold to lukewarm water. Do not use hot water, you'll run the risk of making the wool bleed black dye onto the blue flash. Once its wet, they shave the wool off the beret. These elite paratroopers recommend using a sweater depillar and placing the beret on a flat surface. If you use a razor, you run the risk of tearing the beret. Once the beret is wet it will shrink. Beret wearers recommend putting it on while it's wet so it can conform to the shape of your head, it also allows you to shape the flash, and you do that by folding the corner of the patch.

However it is important to remember that policy out of DoD states the beret is not to be tampered with. It should be worn as it was issued to you. When you wear your beret keep your hair short and wear it properly. All eyes are on you! "The Army of one."



Soldiers from the Hartford Armory celebrate the 226<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Army by donning their berets for the first time. (Photo by Pfc. Shirrod Richardson, 65th PCH)

## Recruiting & Retention Hosts Post AIT Seminar

SPC KARYN REYNOLDS  
65<sup>TH</sup> PCH

Perhaps the most valuable recruiting and retention tool in the Guard is the Post AIT seminar. This seminar is designed to focus on why soldiers enlisted in the Guard and to support their enlistment by offering them tools for personal and professional growth and development. It is not always easy for Guard members to stay focused on their responsibilities as a soldier, especially part time soldiers who often get distracted by the other 28 civilian days of their month. The Post AIT session helps soldiers who are nearing their ETS date to remember what it was that made them enlist while instilling pride in the mission they have accomplished and the tradition they have continued.

The full day class was held at the New London Armory and covered several topics including a review of the mission and benefits of the National Guard. Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Craig K. Lytle of the recruiting office performed much of the presentation with contributions by Chief Warrant Officer 4 Tony Uva of the Drug Awareness and Testing Program and Lt. Col. Jim Grasso of the HR/EO Office. Major topics included Introduction and History of the Mission of the CTARNG, Equal Opportunity, Education Benefits, Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve (ESGR), The NCO Promotion System (NCOPS), ARNG Benefits and Drug Awareness and Testing. The historical data was particularly interesting and was taught through use of a timeline and popular film productions.

In addition to the history and mission of the Guard, a very informative package was given to all attendees that provided resourceful information including web links and detailed benefits explanations. Some of the web links are provided below for all to benefit.

<a href="http://www.armg.ngb.army.mil">www.armg.ngb.army.mil</a>	US Army Site
<a href="http://www.atsc.army.mil/accp/dlsd.htm">www.atsc.army.mil/accp/dlsd.htm</a>	Army Correspondence Course Program
<a href="http://www.aafes.com">www.aafes.com</a>	Exchange Catalog
<a href="http://www.ngact.org">www.ngact.org</a>	CT National Guard Association
<a href="http://www.mrscott.com/army.mil/">www.mrscott.com/army.mil/</a>	Web link to miscellaneous Army sites
<a href="http://www.ct.ngb.army.mil/hro/ARMYjoblist.htm">www.ct.ngb.army.mil/hro/ARMYjoblist.htm</a>	Full-time positions in the CTARNG
<a href="http://www.vba.va.gov">www.vba.va.gov</a>	Veteran's Administration

In addition to these resources, many soldiers do not know that the National Guard offers Distance Learning opportunities. The Guard is developing an elaborate network of distance learning labs throughout the country where training can go on without the inconvenience of leaving your state, and in some cases, without leaving your home. Currently, there is a distance learning lab located in Hartford and there is a second facility at Camp Rowland. Plans are in the works to locate an additional facility in Stratford.

Along with Distance Learning is Computer Based Training (CBT). With current workplace emphasis on computer literacy and high paying computer jobs it is a wonder why more



Soldiers listen attentively during a Post AIT session held at the New London Armory. (Photo by Pfc. Shirrod Richardson, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH)

soldiers don't take advantage of the free computer training that is offered to them. Any soldier who has completed the basic training course is eligible for this free training. There are over 900 courses to choose from. Courses range from basic word processing up to certification as a network manager. The only condition of registration is that the first time you access the system, you must do so from a military computer. Once you have received your ID and password, you can gain access to the system through any PC including your home PC. For questions about Distance Learning or Computer Based Training, ask your full time unit personnel or call MSG McDonnell at (860) 548-1241.

Other topics covered were the Non Commissioned Officer Promotion System (NCOPS), formerly known as STPA and the VA Loan program where handouts specifically identified points of contact and five easy steps to securing a VA loan.

The final topic was Army National Guard Benefits with features such as paychecks and the advantages of part-time status, the Montgomery GI Bill, the benefits of base exchanges, Servicemen's Group Life Insurance, opportunities for employment, Space A travel, incentive bonuses, retirement, and military recreation facilities. The entire seminar was very informative but especially valuable was the booklet compiled and distributed by Lytle. To receive a copy of this booklet you must attend the seminar. To find out when you are scheduled to attend, contact your unit retention NCO. For more information contact your unit recruiter or Lytle at (860) 889-3158.

## Dispatches From the Front

RHONDA CORNUM  
TFME COMMANDER

Just finished the in-brief for the big aviation inspection that will be ongoing this entire week. They seem like pretty reasonable people so far, we will see if I still say that at the end!

It has been a busy week. It rained over five inches the first part of the week and roads all over Bosnia became impassable. Luckily TFME only had one convoy out when they started flooding, and they made it back safely. It took them seven hours of meandering, and looking for higher ground, but they did ultimately find a way home! The weather has been perfect for everything the last few days however, and it is clear, cool and blue skies as I write this morning.

Yesterday was our "safety stand down" day, for the entire task force, to include the aviation unit. We have been very fortunate in having had no reportable accidents, but that good fortune is NOT the same thing as good luck. It is due to the attention to detail of everyone. Classes in risk assessment, risk reduction, weapons clearing and convoy operations were well organized and well attended. Best attended was the "practicalexercise" at the end, using our HHC Commander and the first sergeants and Chief Ward Master as training aids.

The culmination of the day was the "Hump Day" Dining In. Everyone in the

Task Force came unless they were on leave; we managed to have shifts in the

EMT and TOC to ensure folks could participate. Our primary surgical staff was quite late however, Murphy was at work! Wouldn't you know that the one time ever we get a true appendicitis rolling into our Emergency Department, it would be right before the dining in! The case was done successfully though, and they made it to the dinner! Brown and Root put on the decorations and food, and they did a world-class job. It was the first Dining In for many of our folks, from Pfc to majors, and it was certainly different than most you have been to, but it was very memorable and I am sure that everyone had a good time. Maj. Gen. Sharp, Brig. Gen. Rigdon, and Command Sgt. Maj. Ruu were guests of the task force, and even they had fun!

As always, lots going on. We are sponsoring a Medical CAPEX this coming Tuesday. Everyone in MND(N) is participating (US, Danish, Russian) and this will be the first time ever that representatives from the Bosnian Armed Forces will be in attendance. It will be basically a series of static displays, but will end with a demonstration of our hoist/extraction from 100 feet capability. All our crews have been doing both forest and urban extraction training, and are anxious to demonstrate.

As the name implied (Hump Day), we are now officially on the second half of this deployment. Not at all a time to let down the effort, but the redeployment plans are being finalized. See you in September!

## Air Guard Medical Unit Trains in Maryland

CAPT. GEORGE H. WORRALL III  
103<sup>rd</sup> FW PAO

The Connecticut Air National Guard medical squadron conducted their annual sustainment training May 13-26 at Andrews Air Force Base, Md.

Originally planned for Lakenheath Air Base, England, Connecticut's 103<sup>rd</sup> Medical Squadron deployed to the Andrews hospital run by the 89<sup>th</sup> Medical Group to accomplish required skills training for upgrade and proficiency.

Scheduling conflicts for lodging and the resulting higher cost of non-military lodging caused the change from England to Maryland.

"The location change was disappointing for all of us," said Master Sgt. L.O. Clint Wallace, first sergeant, 103<sup>rd</sup> Medical Squadron, who was on his first deployment with the medical squadron since transferring from 103<sup>rd</sup> Civil Engineering Squadron. "The big piece we have to give credit for is Andrews for taking us on short notice and facilitating the training... it is something we are quite grateful for."

Eight officers and 26 enlisted comprised the training from Bradley, most of whom flew to Andrews aboard a DC-9 from Willow Grove Naval Air Station, Penn.



Members of the 103<sup>rd</sup> Medical Squadron prepare for a day of sustainment training at Andrews Air Force Base (left to right) Lt. Col. Donald E. Topor, Chief Master Sgt. Michael Romeo, Lt. Col. Margaret M. Withington, Maj. Keith J. Trott, and Master Sgt. Lois J. Tauber. (Photo by Master Sgt. Lyvinn "Clint" Wallace, 103<sup>rd</sup> Medical Squadron)

The command staff from Connecticut visited with the squadron during the training. Col. Daniel R. Scace, commander, 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing, Brig. Gen. Mary Ann Epps, commander, Connecticut Air National Guard and Maj. Gen. William Cugno, the adjutant general, Connecticut National Guard, all had a chance to see first-hand how the airmen were training.

"One of our own nurses [Capt. Carole R. Wilson] trained me using all the equipment that was there," said Senior Airman Anna Radzynski, medical technician, 103<sup>rd</sup> Medical Squadron. "She went down the whole list from my training record... I was able to get everything done."

"They were eager and enthusiastic to get

their training," said Wallace. "Coming from an outside squadron I was truly impressed how they switched hats from say labor and delivery to intensive care. I appreciate how adaptable and they are in such a critical environment... they did it like walking and talking."

A predetermined training schedule was provided to the 103<sup>rd</sup> Medical Squadron based on the training they requested prior to deploying.

"We had a (training) plan when we got there," said Senior Airman Sabrina L. Wiggett, health services management apprentice, 103<sup>rd</sup> Medical Squadron. "When there was a problem we just went to the first sergeant or guard liaison and they would step in and ensure our objectives got met."

The squadron assembled for regular "how goes it" meetings to take the pulse how the training activities were progressing.

"The meetings were the only time we were all together in a group," said Chief Master Sgt. Doreen Bassingthwaite, medical technician, 103<sup>rd</sup> Medical Squadron. "In a normal day members were dispersed throughout the hospital for training. They [meetings] were a useful tool for communication."

## FATS: An Alternative Firearms Training Opportunity

SFC. KARYN REYNOLDS  
65<sup>th</sup> PCH

The FATS system is a Firearms Training System installed at Camp Rowland for the benefit of both military and civilian personnel. Many agencies use this facility including active reserve components, federal, state and municipal agencies. The cost of the facility fell just short of \$500K and renovations to the facility to install the system were recorded at about the same cost. Far surpassing these costs though, are the benefits the training facility provides to its participants and the savings to the costs of real arms firing and qualifications for military components.

The Firearms Training Systems (FATS) uses software called the Engagement Skills Trainer (EST). The use of the EST for marksmanship and collective training focuses on wartime mission and achievement of wartime proficiency. Although the EST is an invaluable training aid in marksmanship qualification, it is not intended to replace live fire. It is only intended to refresh firing skills so that qualification by live fire requires less time and ammunition, which cuts operations costs of qualifying guardmembers by nearly 30 percent.

The EST consists of three computer driven projectors that are linked to a computer that produces a single tactical engagement scenario video projected onto a 30-foot screen. Up to 12 individual weapons can

simultaneously engage targets that are depicted on the screen, or, instead of a twelve lane target engagement session, the system is capable of dividing the screen into three four-lane devices to adapt to the training needs of participants and maximize utilization of the facility. This is helpful when military personnel are firing in the same time frame as municipal agencies. Soldiers firing M16A2's may fire at a tactical scenario video while civilian law enforcement officers are can engage in a pistol range target video.

The EST can portray both tactical scenarios and infantry weapons ranges on screen. Compressed CO2 gas generates the weapons recoil action and effectuates realistic training. The virtual firing has a 60 percent actual weapon recoil, creating the kickback that soldiers are used to. Additionally, the noise of the weapon is replicated by a surround sound system with speakers placed around the perimeter of the facility, creating the most realistic firing experience outside of live fire. The system most closely resembles a virtual reality game that integrates real weapons training.

The types of weapons currently available for military personnel are the M16A2, the M9, M249, M203, M60 and AT4, and while at the facility you may choose from a number of scenarios. They are as follows: Combat Patrol, Linear Ambush, Withdraw Through Lines, Linear Ambush With Surrender, Vehicle Ambush, Village Combat, Enemy

Attacks With Squad Defense Position, Suppressive Fire And Assault On A Right Flank, Suppressive Fire With Enemy Overrun, Reverse Slope Defense, Combat Patrol, Recon Ridge, Support By Fire, Assault On Bunker, Range Card Prep Probe At Dusk, Night Attack, Night Ambush, Reaction Course Village #1 And #2

The system works by firing a laser beam onto the screen, which is picked up by the hit detection camera located at the top of each projector. The detection camera sends the hit signal back to computer processors, which register a hit for that weapon number. The targets in the scenarios are mapped in the computer so that when the laser beam hits the screen it will register as a hit or a miss. The first hit on a target registers as a kill and if additional hits on the same target are detected, these hits are registered as hits. At the end of the engagement session all kills, hits, misses and rounds fired are recorded and displayed on screen per weapon number. For night vision exercises, filters are mounted on the projectors to replicate night vision and night operation devices (NOD's) such as night vision goggles.

Currently, weekend utilization is at about 50 percent capacity. During a recent training exercise, 36 guardsmen went through the training system and the next day, 35 of 36 soldiers qualified in first round live fire qualifications, proving that this system is a

low cost training aid.

In addition to the weapons marksmanship training, the system can change the lethality of the weapons and that this system can incorporate MILES equipment, which teaches and enhances survivability skills. The facility does not currently have an inventory of MILES equipment so units must supply their own, but Lt. Col. Wayne Kowal reports that there are plans to purchase and store MILES gear for such training in the near future. Kowal is Facilities Site Manager of the Training Site Support Detachment (TSSD) at Camp Rowland. In addition to his facilities management, he is tasked with providing trained operators for the FATS. The system cannot be operated by anyone other than a trained FATS operator, which is provided by TSSD.

There is a two-week centrally funded school at NGPEC in Little Rock, AK that trains soldiers on how to operate the FATS. Anyone interested should contact Capt. Matthew C. Boski at (860) 691-4316. While units such as the FSB, 102<sup>nd</sup>, 208<sup>th</sup> and 242 have already utilized this facility, many units have not. If an individual soldier does not have the opportunity to attend with his unit, as a guardmember he can schedule an individual session. Call Boski or Kowal at TSSD, (860) 691-4316 to arrange an appointment to fire or discuss becoming a trained instructor.



# Targeted Pay Raises In Place July 1

Some noncommissioned officers will see an increase in their monthly paychecks beginning July 1. Sergeants, staff sergeants and sergeants first class with more than six years of service will see their pay increase for the second time this calendar year in accordance with Public Law 106-398.

The chart below shows the increases in bold italics. The following information will be helpful in reading the chart:- The monthly basic pay is on the same line as the pay grade.

- The first line under each pay grade is the amount paid for one drill or MUTA. (Four hours)
- The second line under each pay grade is the amount paid for a full weekend drill or MUTA 4.
- The officer pay grades with an E after them denote officers who spent at least four years and one day of active duty service as an enlisted member.

Some soldiers will also see increases in their Basic Allowance for Housing. For more information, go to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service website at [www.dfas.mil](http://www.dfas.mil)

Pay Grade	Under 2	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 6	Over 8	Over 10	Over 12	Over 14	Over 16	Over 18	Over 20	Over 22	Over 24	Over 26
O-7	5,682.30 189.41 757.64	6,068.40 202.28 809.12		6,112.50 203.75 815.00	6,340.80 211.36 845.44	6,514.50 217.15 868.60	6,715.50 223.85 895.40	6,915.90 230.53 922.12	7,116.90 237.23 948.92	7,747.80 258.26 1,033.04	8,280.90 276.03 1,104.12				8,322.60 277.42 1,109.68
O-6	4,211.40 140.38 561.52	4,626.60 154.22 616.88	4,930.20 164.34 657.36		4,949.10 164.97 659.88	5,160.90 172.03 688.12	5,189.10 172.97 691.88		5,360.70 178.69 714.76	6,005.40 200.18 800.72	6,311.40 210.38 841.52	6,617.40 220.58 882.32	6,791.40 226.38 905.52	6,967.80 232.26 929.04	7,309.80 243.66 974.64
O-5	3,366.70 112.29 449.16	3,954.90 131.83 527.32	4,228.80 140.96 563.84	4,280.40 142.68 570.72	4,450.50 148.35 593.40		4,584.30 152.81 611.24	4,831.80 161.06 644.24	5,155.80 171.86 687.44	5,481.60 182.72 730.88	5,637.00 187.90 751.60	5,790.30 193.01 772.04	5,964.60 198.82 795.28		
O-4	2,839.20 94.64 378.56	3,457.20 115.24 460.96	3,687.90 122.93 491.72	3,739.50 124.65 498.60	3,953.40 131.78 527.12	4,127.70 137.59 550.36	4,409.70 146.99 587.96	4,629.30 154.31 617.24	4,781.70 159.39 637.56	4,935.00 164.50 658.00	4,988.60 166.22 664.88				
O-3	2,638.20 87.94 351.76	2,991.00 99.70 398.80	3,228.00 107.60 430.40	3,489.30 116.31 465.24	3,656.40 121.88 487.52	3,839.70 127.99 511.96	3,992.70 133.09 532.36	4,189.80 139.66 558.64	4,292.10 143.07 572.28						
O-2	2,301.00 76.70 306.80	2,620.80 87.36 349.44	3,018.60 100.62 402.48	3,120.30 104.01 416.04	3,184.80 106.16 424.64										
O-1	1,997.70 66.59 266.36	2,079.00 69.30 277.20	2,512.80 83.76 335.04												
O-3E				3,489.30 116.31 465.24	3,656.40 121.88 487.52	3,839.70 127.99 511.96	3,992.70 133.09 532.36	4,189.80 139.66 558.64	4,355.70 145.19 580.76	4,450.50 148.35 593.40	4,580.40 152.81 610.72				
O-2E				3,120.30 104.01 416.04	3,184.80 106.16 424.64	3,285.90 109.53 438.12	3,457.20 115.24 460.96	3,589.50 119.65 478.60	3,687.90 122.93 491.72						
O-1E				2,512.80 83.76 335.04	2,684.10 89.47 357.88	2,783.10 92.77 371.08	2,884.20 96.14 384.56	2,984.10 99.47 397.88	3,120.30 104.01 416.04						
W-5												4,640.70 154.69 618.76	4,800.00 160.00 640.00	4,959.90 165.33 661.32	5,120.10 170.67 682.68
W-4	2,688.00 89.60 358.40	2,891.70 96.39 385.56	2,974.80 99.16 396.64	3,056.70 101.89 407.56	3,197.40 105.58 426.32	3,336.30 111.21 444.84	3,477.00 115.90 463.60	3,614.10 120.47 481.88	3,756.30 125.21 500.84	3,892.50 129.75 519.00	4,032.00 134.40 537.60	4,168.20 138.94 555.76	4,309.50 143.65 574.60	4,448.40 148.28 593.12	4,590.90 153.03 612.12
W-3	2,443.20 81.44 325.76	2,649.90 88.33 353.32		2,684.10 89.47 357.88	2,793.90 93.13 372.52	2,919.00 97.30 389.20	3,084.30 102.81 411.24	3,184.80 106.16 424.64	3,294.60 109.82 439.28	3,420.30 114.01 456.04	3,545.10 118.17 472.68	3,669.90 122.33 489.32	3,794.70 126.49 505.96	3,919.80 130.66 522.64	4,045.20 134.84 539.36
W-2	2,139.60 71.32 285.28	2,315.10 77.17 308.68		2,391.00 79.70 318.80	2,512.80 83.76 335.04	2,649.90 88.33 353.32	2,750.70 91.69 366.76	2,851.50 95.05 380.20	2,949.60 98.32 393.28	3,058.20 101.94 407.76	3,169.50 105.65 422.60	3,280.80 109.36 437.44	3,391.80 113.06 452.24	3,503.40 116.78 467.12	
W-1	1,782.60 59.42 237.68	2,043.90 68.13 272.52		2,214.60 73.82 295.26	2,315.10 77.17 308.68	2,419.20 80.64 322.56	2,523.30 84.11 336.44	2,626.80 87.56 350.24	2,731.50 91.05 364.20	2,835.90 94.53 378.12	2,940.00 98.00 392.00	3,018.60 100.62 402.48			
E-9							3,126.90 104.23 416.92	3,197.40 106.58 426.32	3,287.10 109.57 438.28	3,392.40 113.08 452.32	3,498.00 116.60 466.40	3,601.80 120.06 480.24	3,742.80 124.76 499.04	3,882.60 129.42 517.68	4,060.80 135.36 541.44
E-8						2,622.00 87.40 349.60	2,697.90 89.93 359.72	2,768.40 92.28 369.12	2,853.30 95.11 380.44	2,945.10 98.17 392.68	3,041.10 101.37 405.48	3,138.00 104.60 418.40	3,278.10 109.27 437.08	3,417.30 113.91 455.64	3,612.60 120.42 481.68
E-7	1,831.20 81.04 244.16	1,999.20 86.64 266.56	2,075.10 89.17 276.68	2,149.80 91.66 286.64	2,228.10 94.27 297.08	2,362.20 97.74 314.96	2,437.80 101.26 325.04	2,512.80 103.76 335.04	2,588.10 106.27 345.08	2,666.10 108.87 355.48	2,742.00 111.40 365.60	2,817.90 113.93 375.72	2,949.60 116.32 393.28	3,034.80 119.16 404.64	3,250.50 126.35 433.40
E-6	1,575.00 52.50 210.00	1,740.30 58.01 232.04	1,817.40 60.58 242.32	1,891.80 63.06 252.24	1,969.80 65.66 262.64	2,097.30 69.91 279.64	2,174.10 72.47 289.88	2,248.80 74.96 299.84	2,325.00 77.50 310.00	2,379.60 79.32 317.28	2,421.30 80.71 322.84				
E-5	1,381.80 46.06 184.24	1,549.20 51.64 206.56	1,623.90 54.13 216.52	1,701.00 56.70 226.80	1,779.30 59.31 237.24	1,962.90 62.95 251.80	1,962.90 65.43 261.72	2,040.30 68.01 272.04							
E-4	1,288.80 42.96 171.84	1,423.80 47.46 189.84	1,500.60 50.02 200.08	1,576.20 52.54 210.16	1,653.00 55.10 220.40										
E-3	1,214.70 40.49 161.96	1,307.10 43.57 174.28	1,383.60 46.12 184.48	1,385.40 46.18 184.72											
E-2	1,169.10 38.97 155.88														
E-1>4mos	1,042.80 34.76 139.04														
E-1<4mos	964.80 32.16 128.64														

## Soldier on the Street

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY Pfc. SHIRROD RICHARDSON, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH

As the 143<sup>rd</sup> Forward Support Battalion was getting ready to depart for its Mission Rehearsal Exercise (MRE) at Fort Polk, LA, members were asked how their families were supporting them while they were undergoing the increased operations and training tempo for their upcoming deployment to Bosnia.



Spc. Joey E. Ladson  
Headquarters Company  
"I have been in the Guard for 20 years, and my family has always been supportive."



Pv2 Naomi I. Miles  
Company B  
"My family thinks the experience is going to be fun."



Chief Warrant Officer 3 Joseph Mingoia  
Company A  
"My family has been excellent. They have always been supportive of what ever I do."



Maj. Kevin B. McDermott  
Company B commander  
"They're allowing me to. They don't really want me to, they know it's something I have to do."



1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Salvatore Alberti  
Headquarters Supply Company  
"My family is in Ohio. I'm not married, but I keep in touch with my folks and tell them what they need to know."



Pfc. Aisha C. Batson  
Company B  
"They think it will be a good experience. My father thinks it will be great!"



1st Sgt. Francis J. Eastwood  
Company B  
"My wife supports me, but she's worried. But the unit is also my family, and I also have a responsibility to them."



Pfc. Gerald M. Barosy  
Company B  
"My mother was afraid at first, but once she understood the mission, it made her feel better."



Pfc. Antonio S. Dispensa  
Company A  
"They think it will be a good experience."



Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Danford Plourde  
Company A  
"I'm a single guy, so I did not have to work it out with anyone. I been in the Guard for 31 years, and this is my first Active duty assignment. Since I'm 50, it should be a good challenge."



Staff Sgt. Leslie C. Hann  
Company A  
"They're OK with it. I had to work it out with my wife, but she understands."



Cpl. Megan E. Hayes  
Company B  
"I always keep my mother informed through the family support unit. It makes her feel better about the things I do. She also talks to them too."



Pfc. Yvon Pierre-Louis  
Company A  
"They're afraid, but it's just a peace keeping mission."



Spc. Terrell L. Nickson  
Company A  
"They think it will be a good opportunity to explore the world. They think I can benefit from other people of the world."



# Korean War: Connecticut Guard Units Called to Duty

STAFF SGT. STEVE MARKOWSKI  
65<sup>th</sup> PCH

*(Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of articles commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Korean War. Over the next several months, Korean War veterans and former members of the Connecticut National Guard will share their stories. If you have a story to share, contact The Connecticut Guardian at (860) 524-4857 or via e-mail at [debby.newton@ct.ngb.army.mil](mailto:debby.newton@ct.ngb.army.mil))*

When the Korean War started, many Americans had not heard of Korea. But the conflict that was originally called a "police action" became well known to full-time military personnel and their families very quickly. This knowledge by necessity was soon shared by members of the part-time military forces.

National Guard and Reserve units across the country were mobilized to participate in and support the U.S.-led response to repel communist forces from South Korea. Policies enacted by the U.S. Department of Defense during the Korean War have helped shape how the reserve components have been used, and not used over the past 50 years. We are in the middle of a three-year effort to recognize those who served in the Korean War, which included wide-scale and prolonged federalization of Guard and Reserve units throughout the country, including Connecticut.

The nation's defense forces had logically been downsized following the victory in World War II.

However, commitments around the world required troops and equipment to be deployed and ready overseas – mainly in Europe. With this focus, the type of response the U.S. would need to overturn the invasion of Korea, required the mobilization of reserve forces, including units of the Connecticut Army National Guard.

In many ways, the division of Korea and the establishment of two separate Korean governments defined what became known as the Cold War, even before North Korean forces crossed into South Korea, in the summer of 1950.

In fact, the 43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, comprised of Connecticut and Rhode Island National Guard units, played an important role in assuring the Soviet Union that the U.S. would not abandon its commitment to protect western Europe. The 43<sup>rd</sup> originally was ordered to mobilize for deployment to Korea. But, with active duty units being deployed from Europe to Asia by late 1951, the U.S. needed to maintain its strong focus on the security of western Europe. Reserve forces were sent to Europe in order to show the Soviets that Americans could maintain their commitment to protecting Europe, while simultaneously fighting communist aggression in Asia.



Korean War veterans take a moment to pose together during the annual "Old Timer's Day" reunion at Bradley Air National Guard Base June 20. (Photo by Senior Airman Eileen Casey, 103rd Communications Flight)

The Korean Peninsula had been a colony of Japan since 1905. Following the allied victory in World War II, the Soviet Union occupied the area north of the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel, while the United States occupied the south.

Each respective side approached its occupation in a manner that was to be seen in countries throughout the world within the next four decades – until the Soviet Union was dissolved.

The newly formed United Nations called for free elections to establish one democratic government for Korea. But, the Soviet Union refused, and instead, it established the North Korean People's Army. Occupation troops left Korea in 1948 and 1949. The U.S. left a small Military Assistance Group of several hundred advisors to help set up the Republic of Korea Army. Consisting of 100,000 soldiers, the "ROK" Army was basically a national police force with minimal artillery, and no planes, tanks, or reserve forces.

In 1945, the U.S. and U.S.S.R. were the two most powerful of the Allied Powers that had defeated the Axis Powers, and while the division of Europe initially received the greater focus, it was the post-war activity in Asia that actually led to wars between competing ideologies.

Just five years after Korea was freed from Japanese occupation, the Cold War heated up on the peninsula.

Early on June 25, 1950, the NKPA attack totally surprised the ROK Army and its 500 U.S. military advisors. Seven divisions, with a supporting armored brigade, launched a four-pronged attack, and the communist forces captured the South Korean capital of Seoul, within three days.

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Omar Bradley convinced President Harry S. Truman that the U.S. needed to hold the line on communist aggression somewhere, and the invasion of Korea marked the time and place. President Truman, a former National Guard officer, agreed with Gen. Bradley, and

increased military aid to South Korea in the form of naval and air support. But the ROK Army was outnumbered, outgunned and outmaneuvered.

President Truman called for the U.N. Security Council to take up the matter. Meanwhile, with no formal declaration of war by Congress, President Truman, used his authority as commander-in-chief to order troops serving occupation duty in Japan to South Korea to stop the communist forces. The first U.S. troops to deploy were ill-prepared and the severe climate and rugged terrain offered further challenges, but the U.S. and ROK troops regrouped and managed to slow the invasion by mid-July.

With more Americans deploying to the Korean theater, the need to maintain security commitments around the world, such as the occupation of a divided, post-war Europe, the need to mobilize National Guard and Reserve troops arose. Connecticut National Guard units served with the 43<sup>rd</sup> Division in World War II, and the division prepared to answer the nation's call again.

The 43<sup>rd</sup> Inf. Div., comprised of units from Connecticut and Rhode Island, was among four National Guard Infantry Divisions to get the call to prepare for mobilization. That notice formally came on August 1, 1950, but troops did not begin deploying right away. The 28<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, and 45<sup>th</sup> Infantry Divisions were the other Guard divisions who received the notice on that date. These divisions were federalized in four increments between August 14<sup>th</sup> and September 1<sup>st</sup>. Over the next 19 months, units were called up in 19 increments, the last one reporting in February 1952.

With his former unit getting mobilized, Maj. Gen. Kenneth Cramer resigned his post as Chief of the National Guard Bureau to return to the 43<sup>rd</sup> and serve as division commander. Similarly, Maj. Gen. Daniel Strickner, resigned as Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania to command the 28<sup>th</sup>. Strickner was the executive officer of the 110<sup>th</sup> Inf. during its

holding action at the Battle of the Bulge.

The U.S. had commitments around the globe. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was new and the U.S. was the largest and most influential participant. Guard soldiers who had been federalized for the action in Korea, were instead sent to Germany to maintain the security of western Europe.

The 43<sup>rd</sup> I.D. arrived in Europe in November 1951, and like the 28<sup>th</sup> I.D., served in West Germany. Terms of federal service were two years, so troops that deployed in 1951 were returning home in 1953, prior to the war's end.

Other Guard soldiers deployed to Korea as expected. On December 31, 1950, the 726<sup>th</sup> Transportation Truck Company, of Maryland became the first Guard unit to arrive in Korea to participate in the war. Within two weeks, five National Guard truck companies were in the theater. When they weren't right in the middle of the fighting, which was often, they were battling the poor, underdeveloped Korean road system.

The 45<sup>th</sup> I.D., of Oklahoma, on December 5, 1951, became the first Guard division to arrive in Korea. The 40<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, of the California National Guard, served in Korea with the occupation forces, in 1945. During the Korean War, the 40<sup>th</sup> was called back, arriving in the country January 11, 1952. Both divisions originally deployed to Japan in April 1951 as reinforcements for security forces who were fighting in Korea. But were eventually they were summoned to Korea to "swap in place" for two divisions who had been involved in combat for an extended period of time.

From its beginning in the summer of 1950, the war saw both sides alternately realize victory and defeat, and anything in between. Chinese communist forces were supporting the North Korean forces. The U.S. government's policy of limited war led to internal controversy and the well-publicized firing of Gen. MacArthur in April 1951, for not obeying the directive of the commander-in-chief.

By the summer of 1952, two years after the surprise invasion by the North, the Korean War appeared to be a stalemate. The undeclared war became a political issue in the U.S. With President Truman not running for re-election, the Democratic nominee was Adlai Stevenson. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower was the Republican nominee, and just prior to Election Day, he made a promise that he would go to Korea if he were elected President. He won the election and went to Korea to visit the troops for Thanksgiving. But, President Eisenhower did not get involved in the peace talks, leaving that in the hands of negotiators in Panmunjon.

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## 242<sup>nd</sup> Engineers Return From Hohenfels, Germany

STAFF SGT. STEVE MARKOWSKI  
65<sup>th</sup> PCH

People seeking a new perspective are often encouraged to think "outside the box." But, it was thinking, and working, inside "the box" that has given members of the 242<sup>nd</sup> Engineers a new perspective. It's a perspective that has helped them realize how valuable they can be on the battlefield, in support of infantry units.

In this case, "the box" is the Combat Maneuver Training Center at Hohenfels, Germany. The CMTC offers some of the best, battle-focused training available to troops, whether they be Guardsmen on annual training, or active duty troops preparing for deployment to the Balkans.

The 242<sup>nd</sup> sent a platoon of engineers to Hohenfels to support OPFOR (opposing forces) in an exercise designed to provide the best possible training for infantry units. OPFOR included members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry. Their adversaries for the exercise were members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 26<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 152<sup>nd</sup> Infantry, Indiana National Guard, also participated.

The members of A Company, 242<sup>nd</sup> Engineers left the Norwalk Armory on May 12<sup>th</sup> for a three-week AT period that will help the unit for years to come. The combat scenario lasted two weeks.

"It was our responsibility to execute the obstacle plan set up by the regimental engineer (from the CMTC)," said 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jeffrey Ramia, of Shelton, platoon leader for A Platoon, and the ranking officer who deployed with the 242<sup>nd</sup>. "Once we put the obstacles in place, we allowed (OPFOR) to get high payoff targets, such as M-1 tanks, M-2's, and engineer assets."

"At our first obstacle, the BlueFor (Blue Forces) had to be 're-keyed' three times (meaning they're MILES gear was hit three times), so they had to keep trying in order to get the training they need," Ramia said. "BlueFor would be the Americans attacking, and we were there to support OPFOR and give them good realistic training. We performed mainly in the defense, because BlueFor was attacking."

By participating in a large-scale exercise that included tanks and other equipment they don't usually see, the combat engineers from Connecticut now better understand their role in battle. The experience was especially valuable for younger troops, especially those who have not trained in this type of active duty facility, complete with units they'd be facing, or supporting, in combat.

"The value for the guys is getting into the box and seeing the rhythm of battles... seeing the battle as it develops. Because they have artillery and armored vehicles coming at them, they can see how they participate in the battle," Ramia said, adding that such training resources are not as



available at home. "In Connecticut, they don't see armor coming up to their obstacles."

"We worked with the infantry. We built the obstacles, then moved out and let the infantry defend the obstacles," said Spc. John Majdan, of B Company, 242<sup>nd</sup> Eng. "It was challenging, in that we got to do real-world missions. We utilized MILES gear, and saw different elements – armor and infantry – working together."

Although he trained with the unit at the National Training Center in California, Majdan said the experience at Hohenfels was different.

"In Germany, we had a small platoon, but we did a company's worth of work. It was extra challenging, because the missions were given to us on the fly, and we had to adapt."

The commander of the 242<sup>nd</sup> Eng. Bn., LTC Tom Bendernagel, a Norwalk resident, explained why this training is so valuable for his troops.

"As engineers, it's difficult to work in a maneuver element. Over there they were able to see the effects of their obstacles on the (adversarial) troops and their equipment. They also had the chance to be stalked by infantry," Bendernagel said. He added that this type of training is not only valuable for the troops who participated.

"They have a lot of experience they want to share with the other '12 Bravos'. The first thing they talked about upon returning, was getting the next platoon over there. We're

going to look into this and look at it for next year."

If the unit is to send another platoon to Hohenfels next year, Sgt. Jeff Stopa of Fairfield, could play a big role, again. The unit's full-time supply sergeant did much of the advance work for the platoon that deployed. "I had been in touch with the major out there for about 6 months, so when I finally met him it seemed as if I knew him already," Stopa said. But, Stopa also found himself very busy as a member of the advance party, and as a supporter of the engineers participating in the exercise.

Stopa was impressed by the training, and especially by the job done by the 242<sup>nd</sup> Engineers.

"The training was wild – tanks everywhere. The guys did a great job," Stopa said. "They have one of the most dangerous jobs. (The engineers) are a prime target because the enemy doesn't want them to put up those obstacles. They really pulled together and did a great job."

Ramia could not say enough about the job done by his soldiers on the three-week deployment, and the months of training that led to it.

"All of the training we did paid off, and it showed in their performance," Ramia said. Training for this rotation at Hohenfels began in January, with unit members doing plenty of extra drill time, especially at Stone's Ranch Military Reservation.

"The guys did a spectacular job. They



(Photos by Spc. John S. Majdan, Co. B, 242<sup>nd</sup> Eng. Bn. and Staff Sgt. Brown, Co. A, 242<sup>nd</sup> Eng. Bn.)

readily stepped up to active duty standards. There was no way to differentiate between my guys and the active duty soldiers, in professionalism and proficiency," Ramia said.

While the experience was especially valuable for troops who are relatively new to the unit, some of those who have been around for a few years saw the value of the overseas trip.

"It was a good AT... probably the best I've been on," said SFC Joe Puchalski, who has been a Connecticut Guardsman for 17 years. "We put in an awful lot of wire, mine and other obstacles, all under very realistic combat conditions. We suffered some casualties at first, but we learned that we shouldn't stay (at any obstacle after completing it). Once we adapted to the rhythm of the battle, we stayed alive. The regimental engineer at CMTC said that other National Guard units would have a tough time meeting the standards that we have set."



# FSB and 1/102<sup>nd</sup> Participate in Mission Rehearsal Exercise

MASTER SGT. BOB HASKELL  
NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

European duty was the common denominator — a tie that binds — as hundreds of Army National Guard soldiers embraced their division's World War II past while preparing for their immediate future as part of the Army's total force during two pivotal weeks in June.

The 29th Infantry Division, based at Fort Belvoir, Va., completed nine days of demanding training — a mission rehearsal exercise — at steamy Fort Polk, La., on June's third Saturday before taking charge of the U.S. peacekeeping mission in Bosnia for six months beginning in October.

In all, 2,085 citizen-soldiers from Massachusetts to California, 16 states in all, including Connecticut, will serve with and command the multinational force that has kept the peace in the U.S. sector for nearly six years.

Maryland Army Guard Maj. Gen. H. Steven Blum, 54, will be in charge. He commands the 29th which numbers 11,000 citizen-soldiers in five states, and includes the 143<sup>rd</sup> Forward Support Battalion and Company B, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 102<sup>nd</sup> Infantry of the Connecticut Army National Guard. The Stabilization Force's 10th rotation will include infantrymen out of the Army's 10th Mountain Division and military police from the Army Reserve.

It will also be a significantly smaller force than has been employed during previous rotations. The overall strength has been reduced 27 percent, from 3,900 to 2,860 troops, since the 29th was told it would command rotation 10.

The fact that soldiers from the 29th will serve in Europe for the fourth time in 83 years — beginning with World War I — was hard to miss because of two other events that took place as this generation got ready for duty in the Balkans.

A huge dedication for the National D-Day Memorial featuring President George Bush in Bedford, Va., on June 6 and a smaller assembly at Fort Polk underscored the 29th Division's part of the D-Day assault on Omaha Beach in Normandy, France, 57 years earlier.

And approximately 100 active and reserve component soldiers put on black berets during an afternoon ceremony at Fort Polk on June 14, the U.S. Army's 226th birthday. That hammered home the point that they are all soldiers in an army that is becoming lighter, leaner and more lethal.

"We feel very fortunate that these events are coincidental," observed Blum. "It allows us to capitalize on our past and makes our history much more relevant and helps the soldiers stand a lot taller."

Ceremonies aside, their training at Fort Polk supervised by the Army's XVIII Airborne Corps was a form of final exam for the soldiers preparing for the peacekeeping process.

They conducted presence patrols outside Camp McGovern and through places named Brcko and the Arizona Market that they will find in Bosnia. They responded to simulated bomb threats. They dealt with Serbs demonstrating against Muslim families returning to their homes. They trained hard for every situation they might encounter during the coming winter.

"The training formula has been a magnificent formula for success," Blum stated. "It has been perfected over the past five years, and it produces soldiers who are absolutely capable and ready. They will face nothing in Bosnia they have not seen in training."

"We are approaching critical mass," assessed Blum about the reduction in the size of the rotational elements. "If the force is reduced significantly further, the missions that have been assigned to SFOR for the past few years will obviously have to be adjusted."

"We may have to change some of our techniques and tactics in theater," Blue added. "I don't see that as a bad thing. It's just a different thing."

The next U.S. force will be buttressed by 15 seasoned citizen-soldiers from the 29th who already know about the people and the winter they will encounter in the Balkans. They were members of an infantry company from Leesburg, Va., who helped guard a Sava River bridge linking Bosnia and Croatia during the winter of 1997-98.

"I know the culture fairly well, and I understand the environment and the mission," said 1st Sgt. Phillip Scott who was a platoon sergeant on the bridge four years ago. "I know why we're doing this and what we have to do to be successful," added Scott who will go back as the top sergeant for the 294 men and women in the division's headquarters company.

Army Guard and active Army soldiers who had already trained in Mississippi, Georgia and New York for this winter's mission were disappointed when they were told they would not be going.

"Those people had been training for a year. They wanted to go," said Capt. Vincent Yznaga from the Texas Army Guard's 49th Armored Division who will command an infantry company. "But it happens. Military missions change."

Those who are going will be glad to get on with it, projected Blum, reflecting on his division's history.

"The 29th division was sorely disappointed every time the D-Day invasion was postponed and was basically feeling almost a sense of relief when they finally loaded the landing craft, even though the conditions were adverse," he said.

"I make no parallels in the degree of difficulty between this peacekeeping mission and the D-Day invasion," Blum added, "but the thought process for a soldier is very similar."



From top  
A soldier stands guard duty as the American flag waves behind him at Fort Polk, La.

Soldiers listen and watch intently as teens portraying COBs (Civilians on the Battlefield) try to communicate despite a language barrier.

Soldiers from the 29<sup>th</sup> ID stand at the ready should the crowd they are facing turn unruly. (Photos by Master Sgt. Bob Haskell, National Guard Bureau)







## The Last Wave Goodbye Final Shot Down



**SGT. 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS DEBBI NEWTON  
STATE SENIOR PANCO**

It is the end of an era. Again.

For the second time in recent memory, the Connecticut Army National Guard will see the deactivation of its field artillery battalion. With this in mind, members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 192<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery headed to Fort Dix, N.J. for their annual training and final live fire exercise.

"This was bittersweet for all involved," said Capt. Jim Masterson, Battery C commander. "This was our last live fire AT before we begin the transition to a chemical brigade. The troops performed in an outstanding manner, with high morale. It was a high note to end on."

During the two-week annual training, the battalion conducted artillery tasks such as live fire with the M102 Howitzers, direct fire, course of fire, pulling out from one position and movement to a new position (sometimes twice in one day), advanced party reconnaissance, taking enemy fire while moving and taking enemy fire while in position and firing.

"Despite this being our last live fire exercise, morale was high," said Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Ron Summa, gunnery sergeant and readiness NCO for Battery C. "I credit the quality of people in the unit, the quality of leadership and the quality of the mission for the high morale. This is probably the only MOS (military occupational skill) where you would

do exactly the same job in war, except here no one's firing at you." Summa was a member of the first artillery battalion to have been deactivated, and joined this one as soon as it was activated in Connecticut.

For Sgt. Greg Harrison, AT was a completely different experience. Harrison had been a member of the Navy and joined the National Guard after coming off active duty in January. This was his first AT as well as his last with the artillery.

"I didn't find out (about the deactivation) until we were on the ground at Fort Dix," said Harrison. "It took on some emotional intensity. While many of the soldiers didn't show it, deep down they really care. There was a note of remorse in every conversation. These weren't ideal conditions, but these guys pulled together and met and exceeded the battalion's expectations for training."

"There are so many images in my head," said Harrison. "I'm still trying to come down from it all."

Capt. Robert Rubino, Battery B commander was very pleased with the training and soldiers in his command.

"Everything went very well," he said. "We set the standard for this AT as though it were not the last. The soldiers and leaders were very good at not letting up, making this a valid training exercise. Everyone was expected to train to standards. Morale was up and the guys did an excellent job. There



Another soldier planning on making the switch to the chemical unit is Spc. Timothy Taylor, a gunner with 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon, Battery B.

"I haven't done anything else in the Guard but field artillery," said Taylor. "This is comfortable for me, but now I'll learn something new in the chemical unit."

"They really pushed us this AT," said Taylor. "We did everything to the fullest. Morale was actually pretty high. It was probably a pretty sad time for some of the guys that have been around for a while, though."

With the missions of this AT accomplished, the soldiers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 192<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery said they are ready to take on the next mission given them and are ready to tackle the new chemical brigade and the challenges it holds for them. But it was with heavy heart that the entire battalion gathered together on the live fire range at Fort Dix for the last time.

There, with a very long lanyard attached to one of their howitzers, every member of the battalion reached out and took hold of the cord, and when the order was given, they pulled the cord and fired the final round as one.

It was their final wave down range. It was the end of an era.

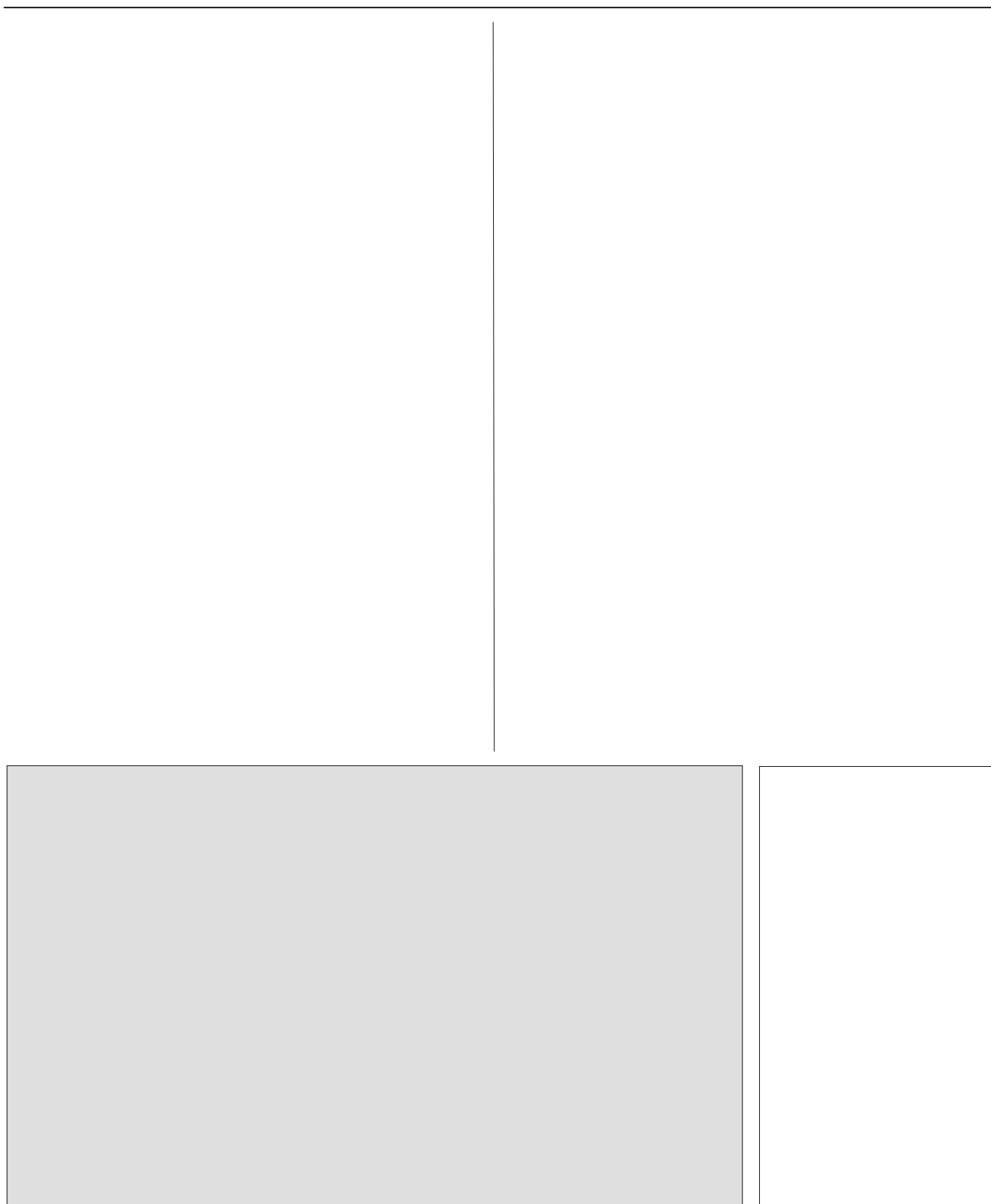
*(Photos by Sgt. Greg Harrison, Battery C, 1st Bn., 192nd Field Artillery.)*









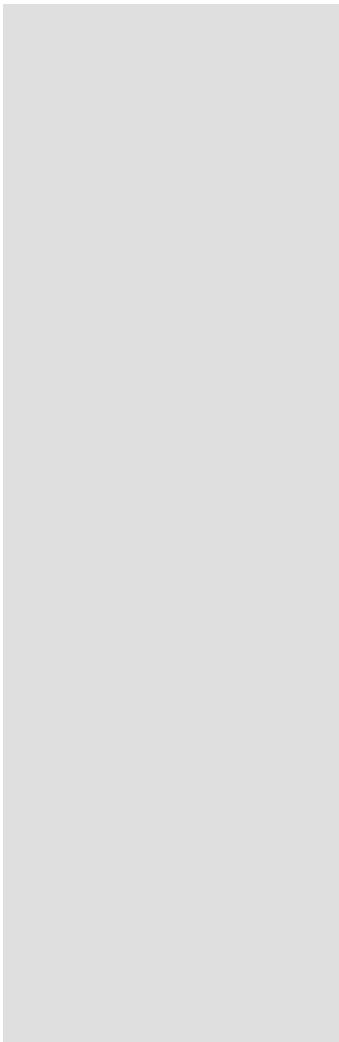
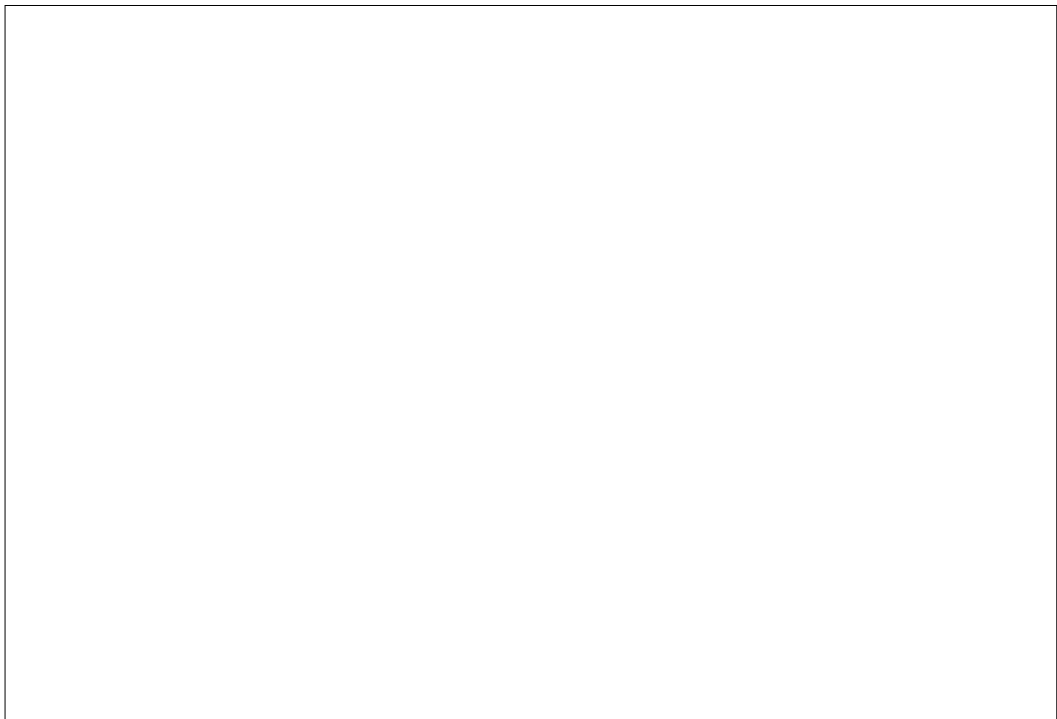




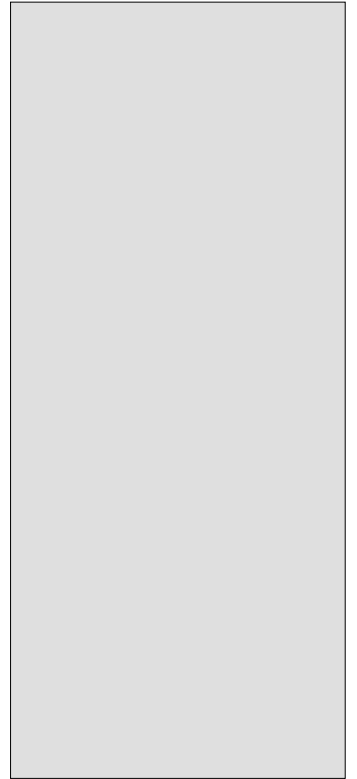
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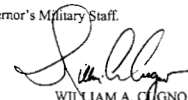
C'ENG-TAG (670)

26 June 2001

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Policy Letter Number 27 - Headgear for Retired Soldiers

1. In accordance with AR 670-1, paragraph 29-3, dated 1 September 1992, this letter prescribes policy for wear of the Army headgear for retirees.
2. Unless otherwise indicated, soldiers who retired prior to 14 June 2001 will continue to wear the **garrison cap** when in uniform. This category of retiree will not purchase the beret for wear at any functions while in uniform, including retirees who assist in military honors and funerals.
3. Retired personnel may only wear the uniform on the following occasions: while attending military funerals; memorial services; inaugurations; weddings and other occasions of ceremony, such as attending parades on recognized holidays, or ceremonies of a patriotic nature in which any active or reserve United States military is taking part. Wearing of the Army uniform at any other time or for any other purpose than stated above is prohibited.
4. This Policy also applies to the Governor's Military Staff.

  
WILLIAM A. CUGNO  
Major General  
The Adjutant General

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